

Attorney's Docket No. 5470-238

PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: MacDonald et al.

Art Unit: 1648

Serial No.: 09/288,837

Examiner: Z. Lucas

Filed: April 8, 1999

For: **METHODS AND MODIFIED CELLS  
FOR THE TREATMENT OF CANCER**

February 24, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**AMENDMENT**

Responsive to the Office Action dated October 22, 2002, it is respectfully requested that this application be reconsidered in view of the following amendments and remarks.

**In the Claims.**

Please replace the pending claims of like number with the following rewritten claims:

71 84. (Amended four times) A composition comprising infectious alphavirus particles in an immunogenically effective amount to prevent or treat cancer, wherein said alphavirus particles comprise one or more heterologous nucleotide sequences encoding a native cancer cell antigen; and wherein said alphavirus particles infect antigen-presenting cells, and further wherein said alphavirus particles comprise one or more attenuating mutations.

72 95. (Amended three times) A composition comprising infectious Venezuelan Equine Encephalitis (VEE) particles in an immunogenically effective amount to prevent or treat cancer, wherein said VEE particles comprise one or more heterologous nucleotide sequences encoding a native cancer cell antigen; and wherein said VEE particles infect antigen-presenting